



*"Effective!" "A hallmark piece!"
"Interesting stories and information!"*

That's a sampling of the comments judges made about MoDOT's *Pathways* magazine in the recent American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' 2002 Skills Awards competition. Those comments plus a score of 178 out of a possible 180 led to *Pathways* winning the first-place national award in the Print: Other External Publications category.

"For a Free Bridge Call MoDOT," Matt Hiebert's article about MoDOT's bridge-preservation

efforts, also won top honors in the feature-story category. It ran in the Spring 2002 issue.

The awards, plus your letters and increasing requests for subscriptions, indicate to me that you find *Pathways* well worth reading and sharing with your family, friends and colleagues. It's clear that the magazine is accomplishing its mission: to educate and inform the public on transportation news and issues in an attractive and interesting way.

I'm certain you'll agree this issue continues the trend. For example, you'll read about how MoDOT works with Hollywood and other production companies that want to shoot movies and TV commercials on Missouri roadways – thereby contributing to local and state economies. And don't miss the fascinating photo essay on transportation in Ghana, courtesy of MoDOT archaeologist Larry Ayres. You'll see the roads and bridges resemble those in Missouri but with an intriguing African influence.

Two stories take you behind the scenes at MoDOT. Read how MoDOT mobilized when tornadoes and rainstorms hit southeast Missouri last spring. Also, you'll discover the complex planning and precision timing that go into a road opening; there's a lot more to it than snipping a ribbon.

The popular "Destination" feature describes a journey through Missouri's German and pioneer past along scenic Route 94. And in this issue we wish MoDOT's Highway Gardens at the Missouri state fairgrounds a happy 80th birthday.

As always, we welcome your letters. Let us know what's on your mind.

Henry Hungerbeeler
Director
Missouri Department of Transportation



Summer 2002

A Real Grabber

My congratulations to you on an outstanding issue of *Pathways*! This issue was a real grabber! The layout, the photos and, most important, the subject matter and treatment of the articles were first class. Please pass my compliments on to your editor and whomever had a hand in an obvious (to me) upgrading of *Pathways*.

George Hendon

The writer is the manager of the Airports Division/Central Region of the Federal Aviation Administration.



Good Timing

Matt Hiebert's article, "Seeding Opportunity," in your Summer 2002 issue is well written and gave an excellent overview of the Missouri Department of Conservation's Grow Native! program. The issue's distribution at the Missouri State Fair was also extremely timely with the premiere of Grow Native!'s half-acre native planting at the fairground's main entrance, as well as with the current increase of cooperative native roadside-planting projects between MDC and MoDOT.

In the first two weeks after the article appeared we answered over 200 written requests for more information about the Grow Native! program and the use of native plants.

Grow Native! is delighted to be working hand in hand with MoDOT and its staff to add the beauty and interest of more Missouri natives to our roadsides and to help increase the demand for Missouri-produced native plant materials.

Keep up the great work!

Judy Allmon

The writer is the executive director of the Grow Native! program.

Fitting Tribute

Just viewed the Summer 2002 publication of *Pathways*. It was a coincidence and somewhat fitting to read the article "Seeding Opportunity."

I say this in tribute to my mother who passed away Aug. 12, 2002. She was a victim of cancer. We traveled weekly from Brookfield to Kirksville for chemotherapy treatments. She truly enjoyed the beauty of the wildflowers in the medians and roadsides along the way. Therefore, it was only appropriate that the floral piece for her memorial service was designed with this in mind.

*Dana Tarpening
Brookfield, Mo.*

More on Joplin

Thank you to Pam Droog for the absolutely excellent "Destination" article you wrote on the Joplin area. Everything you wrote was right and true about our area. We do have a lot of wonderful history here and I have often wondered why more is not written about us.



My father, Archie W. Emery, worked for MoDOT District 7 for 30 years and I have always looked forward to getting this magazine from my mom to read and keep up with MoDOT. I just signed up to receive it myself. Keep up the good work and keep writing more about our area! Thank You!

*Vicki L. Emery
Joplin, Mo.*

Took the Trip

I just want to thank MoDOT for the new intersection at routes 240 and P in Saline County. I have worked at the Orearville School for more than 30 years and always



dreaded that intersection, as I always have to turn to my left onto Route 240 when I go home. I signed a petition several years ago to try to get something done about that intersection and I want you to know that it is very much appreciated.

I am sure there are many projects in our state that call for your attention and the people of this area do appreciate you heeding our call.

I also receive your magazine *Pathways* and enjoy it. We followed "Destination: Marceline to Boonville," Spring 2002 issue. It was an enjoyable Sunday afternoon drive. I

have shared several issues with friends and know some of them have subscribed. Keep up the good work.

Thanks again.

*Ruth Scherer
via e-mail*

Enjoys it But ...

We recently received two copies of your *Pathways* magazine. I enjoyed reading the articles, thought it was very well written and the photography was beautiful.

But, now I understand why Proposition B was defeated. Is our state gas-tax money being spent on sending us TWO copies of the same magazine, publishing a glossy, expensively photographed magazine and supporting a Magazine Director, Publications Manager and Publications staff? For some reason I do not think the taxpayers were told that our gas taxes would be supporting a magazine. Is it any reason that Missouri taxpayers do not trust MoDOT?

*Nancy Hyland
Franklin, Mo.*

Editor's Note: Every employee listed in the magazine's staff box has many other duties at MoDOT. Producing and contributing to Pathways is only one of many assignments completed for the agency.

Pathways welcomes your comments and suggestions. Send your letters to:

Editor, *Pathways*
Missouri Department of Transportation
Public Information and Outreach
105 W. Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65102; or send your e-mail to:
comments@mail.modot.state.mo.us

Please include your name, address and phone number.
Anonymous letters will not be printed.